# October 20

Ecclesiasticus 37:7-16

# Where To Get Advice

[7] Every counselor extoleth counsel; but there is some that counseleth for himself.
[8] Beware of a counselor, and know before what need he hath (for he will counsel for himself) lest he cast the lot upon

thee:
9 And say unto
thee, Thy way
is good: and
afterward he stand
on the other side,
to see what shall
befall thee.
10 Consult not
with one that
suspecteth thee:
and hide thy

counsel from such as envy thee.
11 Neither consult with a woman touching her of whom she is jealous; neither with a coward in matters of war, nor with a merchant concerning exchange; nor

with a buyer of selling; nor with an envious man of thankfulness; nor with an unmerciful man touching kindness; nor with the slouthful for any work; nor with an hireling for a year, of finishing work; nor with an

idle servant of
much business:
Hearken not unto
these in any
matter of counsel.
12 But be
continually with a
godly man, whom
thou knowest
to keep the
commandments
of the Lord, whose

mind is according to thy mind, and will sorrow with thee, if thou shalt miscarry.
13 And let the counsel of thine own heart stand: for there is no man more faithful unto thee than it.
14 For a man's

mind is sometime wont to tell him more than seven watchmen, that sit above in an high tower.
15 And above all this pray to the most high, that he will direct thy way in truth.
16 Let reason go

before every enterprise, and counsel before every action.

# Where to Get Advice

["wont" – one's customary behavior; accustomed to doing something.

Ex: Joe, as was his wont, slept during the evening lecture.]

**Advice. Counsel. Instruction. Leading. Guidance.**

From whom should a Believer take his or her direction?

Is it the most expensive professional or the one with the highest academic degree? Is it the graduate of the

“best” schools,
or perhaps it is
whomever is
available?
Maybe the most
qualified to hear
one’s woes and
offer guidance is
merely the one who
has the best price
or is the most

popular—the highest recommended? How about a religious leader such as a pastor or church counselor? Maybe the best choice is whoever makes you feel the best about yourself

such as parents, friends, children, newspaper advice columns? Maybe other customers in public places such as coffee shops or barber shops can give the best advice. What about bartenders in bars?

There are a variety of options, but what does this passage suggest as being the best way to receive guidance?

Here, the reader is warned that any counselor can give

advice but some do so with ulterior motives which benefit themselves.

For years, media has strongly pushed people to go to licensed therapists, psychiatrists,

psychologists, and other such so-called “mental health professionals” for help and advice. It has been, and currently is, glamorized in many sitcoms, TV series, and films. Viewers

are constantly
told that going
to them is the
popular,
acceptable,
and the right
thing to do.

Yet, very little
guidance is
provided on how

to select counselors beyond gender or skin color.
We read in this part of Ecclesiasticus to BEWARE of a counselor and to know, in advance, what he (or she) really wants. They can be selfish and

they can be sneaky. They can set you up for failure, then sit back to see how badly their advice affected your life.

Consider:

*So-called licensed counselors are often more psychologically disturbed than the people they are paid to "help". In the capture above, try to guess which one is the*

*professional mental health counselor.*

*Though the picture is from a media sit-com, it happens much too often in real life that trying to get help or advice from*

*"professionals" (including medical ones) proves fruitless and even harmful. In the image above, the woman in the middle, on the floor and sobbing, is the counselor. She was supposed to be*

*helping the couple. In the end, they had to console counsel her.*

# 1611 KJV

# vs.

# 1540 Great Bible:

**The 1611 KJV omits the following Great Bibles' verse:**

**Seek no counsel at thy kinsmen, and hide thy counsel from such as bear thee no good will.**

6 Forget not thy friend in thy minde, and be not vnmindfull of him in thy riches.

Between verses 6 and 7 of this version (1611 KJV), an entire verse is missing.

7 Euery counseller extolleth counsell; but there is some that counselleth for himselfe. [Compare to the 1540 Great Bible BELOW:]

commeth he taketh holde of the chylde.[6] Forgetnot thy frende in thy mynde, and thinke vpō him in thy ryches. Seke no councell at thy kinsmen, and hyde thy councell frō soch as beare the no good wyll.[7] *Euery coūceler bryngeth forth his councell. Neuertheles, there is some þ counceleth, but for his awne profet: Beware of the counceler, and be ad=

**The difference is significant. That missing verse begins instruction and warnings regarding advice. Further, the verse is only one of two, in the passage, to address to whom one should *not* give advice.**

The biblical passage gives specifics on when one should avoid receiving counsel.

From reading this, we can learn a lot about where to get advice.

# Spoken in slang, here's good advice for *anyone*:

Be very careful who you get advice from. Cuz' if a brother is telling you what *he* would do and he ain't figured out his own stuff, RUN!

*Be very careful who you get advice from cuz' if a brother is telling you what he would do and he ain't figured out his own stuff, RUN!*

ONE A DAY
SCRIPTURE
1611KJV
PRAYER